

**From:** Donna Jackson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2017 1:06 PM  
**To:** DHCS MCQMD NAU [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Rural Counties

<b>Table 3. Primary Care Network Adequacy Standards</b>		
<b>Standard</b>	<b>Current Requirement</b>	<b>Proposed Standard</b>
<b>Time and Distance</b>	KKA: 15 miles or 30 minutes from beneficiary's residence  DHCS to MCP contract: 10 miles or 30 minutes from beneficiary's residence	Same as current DHCS to MCP contract requirement for both adults and pediatric services:  10 miles or 30 minutes from beneficiary's residence
<b>Timely Access (Non-Urgent)</b>	KKA: Within 10 business days of request  DHCS to MCP contract: Within 10 business days of request	Same as current requirement for both adults and pediatric services:  Within 10 business days of request

Although we have medicaid providers, we have no providers accepting new patients, OR...if they are...it can take up to 3 months to get your first appointment. People are encouraged to see Walk-in Care Clinics and Urgent Care's if they need immediate attention, to avoid using the ER. In Amador County, we are referring patients outside the required standard above because there are simply no alternative. For example, we had our local Sutter calling to see who we could recommend because they are closed to new patients and were not aware of other outside providers. This is not uncommon for any of the providers in our area. We are scrambling to find medical homes. I worked for Sutter years ago. I don't ever remember turning away a medicaid patient, adult and especially children. Now, it seems like an everyday occurrence to receive a call from someone who desperately seeks care..

<b>Table 13. Pediatric Dental Network Adequacy Standards</b>		
<b>Standard</b>	<b>Current Requirement</b>	<b>Proposed Standard</b>
<b>Time and Distance</b>	10 miles or 30 minutes from beneficiary's residence	Same as current requirement:  10 miles or 30 minutes from beneficiary's residence
<b>Timely Access (Non-Urgent)</b>	DHCS to DMC contract:  <i>Routine appointment (non-emergency): within 4 weeks</i>	Same as current requirement:

<b>Table 13. Pediatric Dental Network Adequacy Standards</b>		
<b>Standard</b>	<b>Current Requirement</b>	<b>Proposed Standard</b>
	<i>Specialist appointment:</i> within 30 business days from authorized request	<i>Routine appointment:</i> Within 4 weeks to appointment from the request  <i>Specialist appointment:</i> Within 30 business days to appointment from the authorized request

It can be argued and proven that there are populations that are more than 10 miles and 30 minutes away from dental providers that accept medicaid.

We have no one in Amador and Calaveras county accepting new medicaid patients. There is only 1 provider that even takes medicaid patients, and currently they are only open to Native Americans. A new FQHC was going to bring in dental, but now that is not happening for a long time (if ever). Provider availability is a huge issue, and the requirements for Time and Distance may not be achievable. At least not for parts of our population.

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